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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add claims 21-23.

Please amend the claims to read as indicated herein.

1. (Currently amended) A method carried out by a status engine for monitoring services of an information technology (IT) environment, wherein the method is based on a service model, wherein the service model includes service model elements, wherein each of the service model elements represents a service of the IT environment and is associated with a service model status, wherein the service model elements include at least one superordinate service model element and at least one subordinate service model element, ~~said~~the method comprising:

~~evaluating, by a status engine, calculating the~~ status of the at least one service (superordinate service) model element that depends on at least one of the statuses of one or more other services (subordinate services) and one or more messages coming from services of the IT environment and affecting the status of the superordinate service, by considering status dependency and propagation between the service model elements within the service model, according to one or more rules,

wherein the status of the at least one superordinate service model element depends on a status of the at least one subordinate service model element,

wherein the rules define the dependency of the status of the at least one superordinate service model element on the status of the at least one subordinate service model element and a propagation of the status from the at least one subordinate service model element to the at least one superordinate service model element, and

wherein the rules include at least one of:

a) a rule that is based on additional attributes of at least one of the service

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model elements other than the service model status;

- b) a rule that ignores the at least one subordinate services model element;
- c) a rule that is defined by a user on the basis of at least one of i) logical and ii) arithmetical operations of the status or the attributes of the at least one subordinate services model element ~~or of said messages or of said attributes~~; and
- d) a rule that is programmed individually by a user.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the rules, when the status of the at least one superordinate service model element is calculated, ~~comprise~~include:

status propagation rules that each have as an input only one parameter, ~~namely wherein the parameter is the status of the at least one subordinate service~~ model element, and

status calculation rules that have as an input one or more parameters, ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of: the propagated status of the at least one subordinate services model elements, messages coming from services of the IT environment, and additional attributes.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the calculation evaluation of the status of the at least one superordinate service model element depends on any combination of all three different types of input data: the status of the at least one subordinate services model element, the messages affecting the at least one superordinate service model element and the additional attributes of the services model elements.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the additional attributes can take values that are different from ~~the possible values of the status of the services~~ model elements.

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5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the status of the at least one superordinate service model element is only calculated if certain attributes of the at least one superordinate service model element are set.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein specific subordinate services model elements of the at least one subordinate service model element are individually treated for the calculation of the status evaluation of the at least one superordinate service model element.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein user-specific external data is included in the rules.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein time of the day information is included in the rules.

9. (Currently amended) A computer system for monitoring services of an information technology (IT) environment, wherein the computer system monitors the services based on a service model, wherein the service model includes service model elements, wherein each of the service model elements represents a service of the IT environment and is associated with a service model status, wherein the service model elements include at least one superordinate service model element and at least one subordinate service model element, wherein a status of the at least one superordinate service model element depends on a status of the at least one subordinate service model element, the system comprising:

a status engine for ~~evaluating~~ calculating the status of at least one of the services model elements, wherein said the status engine is programmed so as to can calculate the status of at the at least one service (superordinate service) model element by considering status dependency and propagation between the service model elements within the service model that depends on at least one of the statuses of one or more other services (subordinate services) and one or more messages coming from services

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~~of the IT environment and affecting the status of the superordinate service, according to one or more rules, the rules include at least one of:~~

a user interface for configuring the rules; and

a graphical display for visualizing monitoring results.

wherein the rules define the dependency of the status of the at least one superordinate service model element on the status of the at least one subordinate service model element and a propagation of the status from the at least one subordinate service model element to the at least one superordinate service model element, and

wherein the rules include at least one of:

a) a rule that is based on additional attributes of at least one of the service model elements other than the service model status;

b) a rule that ignores the at least one subordinate services model element;

c) a rule that is defined by a user on the basis of at least one of i) logical and ii) arithmetical operations of the status or the additional attributes of the at least one subordinate services model elements ~~or of said messages or of said attributes~~; and

d) a rule that is programmed individually by a user;

~~a user interface for configuring the rules; and~~

~~a graphical display for visualizing the monitoring results.~~

10. (Original) The computer system of claim 9, wherein the interface for configuring the rules is a graphical user interface.

11. (Original) The computer system of claim 9, wherein the interface for configuring the rules is an application programming interface to other programming languages.

12. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 9, wherein the interface

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for configuring the rules is a script programming language of which the syntax is provided by the status engine.

13. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 9, wherein the status engine is capable of handling a graph structure of the IT network of services in which each of the services can have one or more depending services and one or more services on which ~~each of the services~~ depends.

14. (Original) The computer system of claim 9, wherein the dependencies between the services of the IT environment are visualized as a graphical representation.

15. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 14, wherein the status and status changes of the services model elements of the IT environment are visualized in a graphical representation.

16. (Currently amended) A computer program product including program code, when executed on a computer system, for carrying out, by a status engine, a method for monitoring services within an information technology (IT) environment,

wherein the method is based on a service model, wherein the service model includes service model elements, wherein each of the service model elements represents a service of the IT environment and is associated with a service model status, wherein the service model elements include at least one superordinate service model element and at least one subordinate service model element, and wherein the status of the at least one superordinate service model element depends on a status of the at least one subordinate service model element,

wherein said the method comprising includes calculating/evaluating, by a status engine, the a status of at the at least one service (superordinate service model element by considering status dependency and propagation between the service model elements within the service model according to one or more rules, wherein the rules

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define the dependency of the status of the at least one superordinate service model element on the status of the at least one subordinate service model element and a propagation of the status from the at least one subordinate service model element to the at least one superordinate service model element,) that depends on at least one of the statuses of one or more other services (subordinate services) and one or more messages coming from services of the IT environment and affecting the status of the superordinate service, according to one or more rules, and

wherein the rules include at least one of:

- a) a rule that is based on additional attributes of at least one of the service model elements other than the service model status;
- b) a rule that ignores the at least one subordinate services model element;
- c) a rule that is defined by a user on the basis of at least one of i) logical and ii) arithmetical operations of the status or additional attributes of the at least one subordinate services model element ~~or of said messages or of said attributes~~; and
- d) a rule that is programmed individually by a user.

17. (Original) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the program code provides an interface to the user for configuring the rules.

18. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim ~~16~~17, wherein the interface for configuring the rules is a graphical user interface.

19. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim ~~16~~17, wherein the interface for configuring the rules is an application programming interface to other programming languages.

20. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim ~~16~~17, wherein the interface for configuring the rules is a script programming language of which the syntax is provided by the status engine.

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21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the status of at least one of the service model elements further depends on one or more messages coming from services of the IT environment and affecting the status of the at least one of the service model elements and wherein the rules further define the dependency of the status of the at least one of the service model elements on the messages.

22. (New) The computer system of claim 9, wherein the status of at least one of the service model elements further depends on one or more messages coming from services of the IT environment and affecting the status of the at least one of the service model elements and wherein the rules further define the dependency of the status of the at least one service model elements on the messages.

23. (New) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the status of at least one of the service model element further depends on one or more messages coming from services of the IT environment and affecting the status of the at least one of the service model elements and wherein the rules further define the dependency of the status of the at least one of the service model elements on the messages.